MEITHEI[1]

Data Source: Abbi and Mishra 1985 [AAK-SSM]

From "approximately forty native speakers ... living in Imphal, the capital of Manipur, India. Interviews, questionnaires, narratives, songs, and dialogues were used" (p. 81).

Inventory: Abbi and Mishra 1985 [AAK-SSM] (pages 81-92)

SYLLABLE CANON

(C)(V̯)V(V̯/C)

CONSONANTS

Simple Initials

p	t		c	k
ph	th			kh
b	d		j	g
(bh)	(dh)		(jh)	(gh)
	s			h
m	n			ŋ
w	l	r	y	

- Voiced aspirates occur only in borrowings (p. 82).

Initial Clusters

dw	jw	kw	khw	sw						
pl	kl	khl	gl	sl						
br	phr	dhr	jr	cr	dr	tr	gr	kr	khr	ŋr
dhy	gy	ky	khy	ŋy	hy					

Medial Geminates

-pp-	-tt-	-cc-	-kk-
-mm-	-nn-		-ŋŋ-
-ww-	-ll-	-yy-	

- Geminates occur only in medial position (p. 87).

Finals

-p	-t	-k
-m	-n	-ŋ
-w	-y	

- Finally, [-l] can occur in place of [-n] (p. 91).

VOWELS

i		u
e	ə	o
	a	

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

MEITHEI

Data Source: Chelliah 1990 [CHE1990]

Inventory: Chelliah 1990 [CHE1990] (pages 28-30)

CONSONANTS

p	t	c	k	
p^h	t^h	c^h	k^h	
(b^h)	(d^h)	(j^h)	(g^h)	
				h
m	n		ŋ	
w	l	y		

- /b^h d^h j^h g^h/ occur only in borrowings.
- Chelliah claims (p. 28) that the voiced stops [b d j g] are not phonemes.
- /l/ is in free variation with [n] word-finally and is realized as [r] intervocalically.
- Chelliah treats phonetic [s] and [s^h] as belonging to the phoneme /c^h/, because [s] and [s^h] trigger the same rules as "the other phonemes in the aspirated series" (p. 29).

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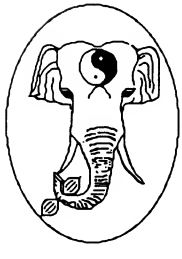
Ju Namkung, Editor



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